

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JERUSA 02093 012150Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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O R 012028Z JUL 78
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1433
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT NIACT IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE
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AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

S E C R E T JERUSALEM 2093

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: FXMT, MARR, UNSC, IS, LE, IS
SUBJECT: SOUTH LEBANON: CRISIS AT KAWKABA

REF: JERUSALEM 2090, BEIRUT 4382

1. UN SOURCE REPORTS FOLLOWING IS SITUATION EARLY EVENING
AUGUST 1 BASED ON TELCON WITH UNIFIL HQ.
2. AT 1500 GMT MORTAR AND MACHINE FIRE ORIGINATED FROM KLAYA
AND MARJAYOUN IN DIRECTION NORBATT AND NEPBATT. SOME ROUNDS
FELL WITHIN KAWKABA. MOVEMENT OF CHRISTIAN VEHICLES AND TROOPS
OBSERVED IN DIRECTIONS OF CHRISTIAN ROADBLOCK BETWEEN
MARJAYOUN AND IBIL AS SAQY. FIRING STOPPPED
1700 GMT AND 90 MINUTE CEASE FIRE REPORTEDLY WENT INTO EFFECT.
3. GIVEN LEBANESE PROCLIVITY TO TRY TO GET OTHERS TO DO THEIR WORK
FOR THEM, ONECE AGAIN ILLUSTRATED IN BEIURT 4382, ONE
POSSIBILITY WOULD BE FOR UNIFIL TO SEND COMPETENT SENIOR OFFICER

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TO KAWABA TOMORROW
IN EFFECT TO NEGOTIATE TERMS OF PASSAGE WITH HADDAD AND THEN SIMPLY
INFORM SAAD WHEN HE COULD MOVE AND VIA WHAT ROUTE. THIS WOULD MEAN
LEAVING THE STATUS OF HADDAD TO ONE SIDE FOR THE TIME BEING.
IF DEPT THINKS THIS
IS WORTH A TRY, INSTRUCTIONS SHOULD GO FROM WALDHEIM TO ERSKINE.
IT SEEMS CLEAR PROBLEM OF LAF MOVE TO TIBRIN AND SEPARATE PROBLEM

OF HADDAD AND MILITIAS CANNOT BE SOLVED AT SAME TIME HOWEVER
DESIRABLE THIS MIGHT BE.

THE ALTERNATIVES WOULD SEEM TO BE TO FIGHT (WHICH WOULD PROBABLY
BE DISASTROUS MILITARILY FOR LEBANESE FORCE),
STAY IN PLACE OR RETURN TO BEKAA FROM WHENCE IT CAME.

4. UN FURTHER REPORTS THAT IN EL MERI MEETING AUGUST 1, HADDAD HAD
FURTHER CONDITION THAT AFTER LAF TRANSIT COMPLETED, ROUTE NOT
BE USED FOR SUPPLY. UNIFIL IS WILLING TO HELP WITH LOGISTICS
BUT LEBANESE HAVE NOT DISCUSSED MATER SERIOUSLY WITH UN AS FAR AS
ANYONE HERE KNOWS.
NEWLIN

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